

MANY IRREGULARITIES IN CONDUCT OF ARIZONA PRISON ARE UNCOVERED

Senate Will Likely Censure the Governor, but the House Is Expected to Hit His Prison System Hard—Investigation of the Complaint of Florence Citizens Is Completed—The Legislature Transacts Other Business.

Phoenix, Ariz., Feb. 26.—When the prison investigation closed last evening it was certain that two widely varying reports would be submitted. Everyone who had followed the hearing, which began Monday morning and proceeded till late last night, knew that the senate committee would submit a report upholding the administration and perhaps recommending a few minor changes in the management of the honor convicts. It was equally well known that the house committee would present a report severely censuring warden R. E. Sims, governor Hunt and other officials responsible for the honor system.

Phoenix Firm Boycotted.
The testimony regarding the buying of supplies proved that two Phoenix firms have boycotted Phoenix houses because the local concerns are selling to the penitentiary.

Creed L. Fauber, a salesman for the Walter Hill Commission house, of Phoenix, testified that the manager of the Phoenix Commercial company re-

fused to buy goods of him and told him plainly that he refused because the Hill firm was selling to the penitentiary. At the Michael-Arballo company's store, in Florence, Fauber was told the same thing.

Charles H. Pauly, also of the Walter Hill company, corroborated Fauber's testimony. Witnesses were particular to bring out the point that the Hill company never shipped more than \$250 worth of goods to the prison in one day. There is a law permitting supplies to be bought for the prison as emergency purchases, to the amount of \$150 a day, without a contract. Most of the time since the Hunt administration took hold, all supplies have been bought under the emergency clause of the law.

Contract Refused.
Charles R. Osburn, secretary and citizen member of the board of control, stated that at the beginning of the fiscal year bids were advertised for one contract was awarded the Michael-Arballo company, but that concern refused to sign it because of a certain clause. That clause was to permit the state to go into the open market and buy supplies whenever it was economical to do so. Bids were readjusted for, but again there was a misunderstanding. As a result, the warden has been buying the prison supplies in the open market.

Representative Jacobs produced a bill from the Old Dominion Commercial company, of Globe, for supplies for the Globe-Road road camp. Governor Hunt is president of the Old Dominion company, a fact which Jacobs seemed to think highly important. Osburn explained that in this particular instance the board merely acted as the agent for Globe county, which paid for the road work done within its borders.

Warden Permitted to Buy.
Osburn admitted that the superintendent had no direct authority of law to make purchases of any kind, but said it was an old custom to let the warden do much buying without previous approval of the purchases by the board of control.

Jesse Wanslee, secretary of the prison, was on the stand for more than an hour. Wanslee introduced letters received by Warden Sims from persons who said they were sorry they signed the petitions of protest and explained that they did not know the real purpose of the documents.

Wanslee suggested a law making it a felony for any person to sell or give a convict liquor. On several occasions, he said, outside parties caused trouble by giving liquor to prisoners at the road camps.

According to Wanslee's figures, 25 honor men have escaped. Fifteen got away completely; two are now being held in other states and will be brought back; six were recaptured.

Lectures Legitimate.
S. Shanley, an attorney called as a witness, delivered quite a lecture on the wrong of putting men behind walls for crime committed. Shanley was a member of the Georgia legislature that investigated the penal system of that state a few years ago. Georgia's present system, he declared, is excellent. He would like to see all the Arizona



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convicts worked on the road, but under guard.

Asked about the sentiment of the people in Florence, Shanley replied that it is divided. By no means all of them, he said, are opposed to the honor system.

Riley Bryan, captain of the prison guards, declared that only rarely are convicts permitted outside the walls unless under guard.

J. J. Sanders, parole clerk of the penitentiary, was on the stand only a moment. Kenneth MacNichol, a writer, told of the Kate Bernard-Louis Byrnes incident. MacNichol was with both Miss Bernard and Byrnes on that day, except for a few minutes when they stopped at a church. The incident, he declared, had been distorted and enlarged upon, "merely to vilify the name of a good woman."

Warden on the Stand.
Warden Sims finished his testimony at the opening of the afternoon session. He was asked if he had ever permitted W. J. Crowell, sentenced to 14 years for murder, to go to Red Rock to look after his business there. Sims admitted that Crowell went to Red Rock twice. Once he was under guard and on the other occasion he was met at Red Rock by an officer. Crowell returned to the prison and is still there.

Arms Honor Convicts.
Sims also testified that on occasion he had armed honor men and sent them out with tools. He had no objection to the armed men having returned, several times with the fugitives.

Jacobs asked Sims if he were not carrying out the policies of governor Hunt. "I am," replied Sims. "I will say, however, that I am in full accord with them. Were I not I could not have accepted the position of warden." The warden denied that any convict had been paroled without action of the parole board. Twenty-six have been paroled under this administration and

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only one has violated his parole, he said.

Adverse Testimony.
James Sinnott, under-sheriff of Pinal county, and Roy Troxel, a bartender who was a guard at the penitentiary under the old administration, made some rather strong statements. Troxel was particularly vehement in his denunciation of the honor system. He was a little too positive in his statements to be regarded as a good witness.

Sinnott testified that the sheriff's office had never been officially notified of escapes from the penitentiary or the road camps, though he admitted that Warden R. E. Sims had several times notified the sheriff in person. He said that if he met a man sent up from his own county he would not know whether he were an honor man or an escaped convict. He had no objection to the convicts being worked outside the prison provided they were properly guarded.

Violates Anti Law.
When asked if he had ever heard of unbecoming conduct on the part of a convict while unguarded on the Florence streets, Sinnott replied that the driver of the prison automobile ran it through the town at night without any lights. He had seen convicts talking with young boys but never with girls.

Murderer at "Wild West" Show.
At Kit Carson's west show Sinnott saw Jack Monroe, sent up for a murder committed near Superior, Arizona, and Warden Sims' little boy on the hand and no guard was near. According to Sinnott, Monroe tried to shake hands with him, but the officer refused.

"Pretty soft for you," Sinnott said. "Yes, this game is easy," laughed Monroe.

The witness stated that he had seen as many as three honor men at one time on the streets of Florence, unguarded.

Convict At a Dance.
Troxel declared that Walter Gaynor had tried to buy liquor at the saloon where he tends bar, but had been refused. Troxel said that had he not been personally acquainted with him he never would have taken him to be a convict. All the honor men were well dressed, he said.

Once Gaynor attended a dance where Troxel was floor manager. He danced four times. Troxel did not say with whom. Then he asked to be introduced to four women whom Troxel regarded as his friends and the floor manager ordered him out of the place.

Troxel said that he did not trust the present prison administration but he paid a high compliment in his rather vigorous language, to Captain Thomas H. Ryning, the former superintendent, under whom he worked.

Little Love For Convicts.
W. Y. Price, president of the Florence Commercial company, was asked: "Would you like to see the prison moved away?" Senator Cunniff asked the question.

"I would," replied the witness, after a moment's hesitation. When asked regarding his views on prison reform, Mr. Price replied: "That is a question that I have never studied, but I am opposed to it."

Price hadn't much faith in the ability of a convict to reform and was inclined to the theory that when a man is once a criminal he always remains one. Moreover, he thought that the roads and bridges built by convicts in this state would have cost less if built by free labor, under contract.

He had an idea that several thousand dollars were spent in pursuing escaped convicts.

All the witnesses were asked why no steps were taken to protect regarding what was going on in Florence until the petitions were filed with the legislature. Price had the most satisfactory answer. He said that the citizens had been considering the matter for a long time but did not think that it would do any good to complain to warden Sims to the governor or any member of the board of control. They decided to take their troubles direct to the legislature.

Convicts Mistaken For Drummers.
C. G. Powell, a member of the city council of Florence, and a merchant of the town, said that he had mistaken well dressed convicts for traveling men. He had never heard that the people of Florence were talking of arming themselves to defend themselves from the convicts, but he suggested a law requiring convicts to be kept within prison walls, unless closely guarded.

Senator Cunniff asked all the witnesses what legislation they would suggest to remedy the conditions they alleged to exist. All replied along the same general lines—keep them in the prison and not let them out except under guard.

Warden's Statement.
Warden Sims filed a statement pre-

He Says It's True!

A certain El Pasoan clipped the "ad" shown below from a recent edition of The Herald, sending it to Mr. John Wanamaker (former Postmaster General), with a letter asking if the facts stated therein were correct. Mr. Wanamaker's reply is given below. His letter was loaned me by the recipient, and can be seen at my office. J. J. Tyndall, Dist. Mgr.

Private Office
John Wanamaker
Philadelphia.

February 12th, 1913.

M. . . . "Acknowledging receipt of your letter of the 8th, enclosing advertisement of the Union Central Life Insurance Company, making personal reference to myself; the figures stated in the advertisement regarding my life insurance in that Company are CORRECT."

Very truly,

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Below is the "ad" to which the letter refers.

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the state's business, with the instruction to perform that business as speedily as possible, and return. Not a complaint has ever been made to me by a citizen of Florence, or anyone else, of a single instance in which these trusts "mixed and mingled" with the boys, offended a woman or made themselves obnoxious.

Prisoners Play For Dances.
"At the request of Florence women, the prison orchestra has been allowed to play for dances at Keating hall, always under guard. None of them have participated in these dances and none of them have made any efforts to obtain introductions to the women of the town."

"The only instance in which the prison men have competed with one skilled laborer is when the prison management has been allowed to permit them to do odd jobs in Florence, upon the representation that men could not be secured in town to do the work. I am informed that former administrations considered such a similar courtesy to the citizens of Florence and entirely escaped condemnation therefore."

"The honor system is succeeding in other ways, though there are as many as its malicious detractors. It is succeeding, and will succeed in Arizona, despite the absence of honor on

(Continued on Page Eight.)

Real Estate Development Is Noticeable

Many improvements are noticeable in the real estate development of El Paso and the surrounding sections for the past year. Among the most prominent are the activities in building in the Cotton Addition. Many of the most prominent business organizations of El Paso have located in that section of the city and from indications they are getting the business in their new homes. The Cotton Addition is so situated as to make it an ideal investment either for business or for the homeseeker. The Texas and Pacific railroad runs through the property, making shipping convenient. In addition to this it has the busiest car lines in this city and all the main traveled thoroughfares leading to the country south of El Paso run through the Cotton addition, which has more miles of paved streets than any other tract on the El Paso market. Cotton addition is not a tract that the purchaser will have to pioneer, but is now fully improved, and is less than ten minutes' walk from the post office or any business block in El Paso. The property in Cotton addition can be purchased on easy terms. Lots may be had as low as four hundred and fifty dollars, on up to seven hundred. This choice property is being shown exclusively by the local firm of A. P. Coles and Bros.

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Discard lard altogether, discard butter except for your table, and use Cottolene for all shortening and frying. The results, as well as the economy, will make you thankful for having read this advertisement.

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GINGER DROPS
Cream one-half cup of Cottolene with one-half cup of sugar and add one cup of molasses. Beat into this two and one-half cups of flour sifted with a teaspoon each of salt and cinnamon, also a tablespoon of ginger. Add two well beaten eggs and three fourths of a cup of boiling water, in which two teaspoons of soda have been dissolved. Bake in muffin pans in very moderate oven. These are particularly tender and delicate and may be served as individual puddings with sweetened cream.

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